

Seaborg: CIA plant no peril to India water

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BERKELEY—The Central Intelligence Agency probably did leave a nuclear power pack in the Himalayas between India and China 13 years ago, University of California professor Glenn Seaborg said today.

But it is not a nuclear reactor, nor would its isotopes contaminate India's water, Seaborg added. He headed the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission at the time.

Seaborg, a Nobel Prize winner and a chemistry professor at Berkeley, commented on a budding international furor over a magazine story that said the CIA had lost a miniature portable nuclear power plant in the Himalayas while trying to set it up as an unmanned monitor of nuclear weapons tests in China.

Outside magazine said the CIA mountain climbers left the power plant during a mountain

storm and it was later buried by an avalanche.

Seaborg, who headed the AEC from 1961 to 1971, said the atomic power packs were developed in an AEC project begun in the 1950s but they were not nuclear reactors. They merely used the heat from the natural decay of radioactive isotopes to generate electricity for weather stations and other equipment at remote sites for long periods of time, he said.

When he read the Outside story yesterday, Seaborg said he thought it would probably be true that a power pack was lost in the Himalayas.

But he said there is no threat to the waters of the Ganges River downstream because the plutonium and strontium 90 in the packs were in forms not soluble in water.

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14 April 1978

CIA 'ready to aid businesses'

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DETROIT (UPI) — CIA Director Stansfield Turner said yesterday his agency is ready to expand intelligence activities to nonmilitary areas to provide its services to business and give taxpayers "a better return on their investment."

"We want to share what information we collect when it can be unclassified," Turner told a news conference. "For example, there is economic and political information that we can collect that would be of value to American businessmen."

Prior to speaking to the Economic Club of Detroit, Turner told reporters the CIA is increasing its collection of economic and political information that could be of value to businessmen and other nongovernmental groups.

"The CIA can be open in only one direction — sharing information. The more you release, the less you have to protect. And it gives the taxpayers a better return on their investment."

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India Asks U.S. Envoy For Report on Device Lost in Himalayas

NEW DELHI (AP)—India demanded yesterday that the United States promptly check out reports of a CIA nuclear device lost in the Himalayas 13 years ago and inform it of the potential hazards.

U.S. Ambassador Robert G. Goheen was summoned to India's Foreign Ministry and told that news stories of lost nuclear material that could poison the Ganges River had caused "great concern," a ministry spokesman said.

He said Foreign Secretary Jagat Mehta asked Goheen "to ascertain the truth as early as possible" about the report in Outside, a publication of the American magazine Rolling Stone.

The magazine story said the device was lost by a CIA expedition trying to set up a tracking station to monitor nuclear test explosions in China.

Goheen told Mehta the State Department was looking into the matter, the Indian government spokesman said.

In Washington, the State Department said it is checking into the report. The CIA refused to comment on the story.

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Turner says CIA is not interfering in Iran affairs

By DON BAIRD
Citizen-Journal Staff Writer

The director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency denied Thursday the CIA plays a role in Iran's internal affairs but said the agency acted correctly 26 years ago when it helped overthrow the Iranian government.

Adm. Stansfield Turner, appointed head of the CIA by President Jimmy Carter in March 1977, spoke at an Ohio State University press conference prior to an evening campus lecture.

THE NIGHT BEFORE, in a similar appearance on the University of Kentucky campus in Lexington, 12 persons were arrested when angry Iranian students protested what they termed a CIA effort to keep the shah of Iran in power.

Also Wednesday, angry Iranians marched from OSU to the Statehouse to protest what they called the shah's oppressive regime, claiming his police and troops gunned down 500 Iranian citizens at one city last January.

About the CIA's role in overthrowing the government of then-prime minister Mossadegh, Turner said, "There is no question this country fully supported that activity in 1952."

"I STILL THINK it was a good thing to do that, myself."

Why?

There was a long pause before Turner's answer. He characterized Mossadegh as a communist and his leadership as "the imposition of a communist government on a free society."

WHAT ABOUT claims Mossadegh's government was popular with the people and that his decision to nationalize foreign oil interests had more to do with the CIA decision to overthrow him?

There was a still longer pause, but Turner replied such a summary of events "may be stretching the point."

He said anyone who travels extensively in Iran can testify "it's very easy to see the marked difference in opportunity for the people."

IN HIS OPINION, he said, the shah's government is less oppressive than Mossadegh's.

Turner denied the CIA is playing any role in Iran's internal affairs, pointing to what he called "strict controls" on CIA interference with foreign governments, a service he said the CIA performs for the federal government "on demand" rather than initiating it.

He said it is "absolutely untrue" the CIA is cooperating in reprisals against dissidents by the shah's secret service, which Middle East experts claim was created with CIA aid.

ON OTHER ISSUES, Turner said he cannot comment on reports that a nuclear spying device was planted in India by the CIA and now threatens to poison Indian rivers.

"I just can't comment on that kind of operation," Turner said, "lest we mislead people."

He said the fact the claim appeared in Outside, published by Rolling Stone magazine, "doesn't really give it the touch of authority which gives me leave to comment on it."

Turner said he likewise cannot comment on Soviet claims the CIA is holding Arkady N. Shevchenko under duress. The Russian official disappeared from the United Nations in New York late last week amid reports he wants to stay in the U.S. permanently.

Turner said one of the CIA's major accomplishments is the agency's decision to be more open with the media and the public, thus letting the nation's citizens "benefit more from their product and get a return on their investment."

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CIA Leader Denies U.S.-Iran Entanglement

By Michael Salster
Of The Dispatch Staff

The director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency flatly denied Thursday any American activity in Iranian internal affairs.

Adm. Stansfield Turner, in Columbus for an address at Ohio State University, also said the agency is not cooperating with Iranian secret police in reprisals against Iranian students in the United States protesting the shah of Iran's policies.

During a 30-minute press conference, Turner discussed a number of issues, including recruitment of college students for the CIA, the agency's reorganization efforts and the court suit against author Frank Snepp.

Turner said he is gratified by the response of students to CIA recruiting efforts.

The students, he said, have seen "through the complaints of a vocal minority" in choosing employment with the agency.

Turner said about one in 10 students interviewed by the CIA is employed in either research, scientific intelligence, administration, or overseas clandestine activities.

The reorganization, undertaken after Turner succeeded William Colby as director, has resulted in the elimination of 820 jobs in the agency, Turner said.

The resulting increase in agency efficiency "means that our people in the field will be less fettered by overdirection," Turner said.

He said the reorganization will also improve morale among younger agency employees, giving them opportunities "by moving along the older people."

Turner had harsh words for former CIA employee Frank Snepp, who recently published a book entitled *Decent Interval*, about American activities during the fall of South

Vietnam in 1975, without first getting CIA clearance.

"I don't respect that kind of deception and violation of contract," Turner said, referring to an agreement each CIA employee signs that all writings will be screened before publication.

The federal government has filed suit against Snepp. Turner said that if Snepp and others want to "blow the whistle" on government activities, there are other avenues open besides the CIA screening procedure.

"In the last several years there have been created oversight committees," Turner said. "The Snepps can go to these people (and) register their desire to publish... if they think we will be unfair."

"I've yet to find a so-called whistle blower who has taken this recourse."

Turner's visits to college campuses recently have been marred by demonstrations by members of the Iranian Student Association.

The director said the only time the CIA becomes involved in a country's internal affairs, and that for a "political action," is at the direction of the National Security Council and the president, and then only after the appropriate congressional committees have been notified.

Turner closed the press conference by saying that he has "not seen or heard anything" that would warrant an investigation into possible CIA connections to Watergate.

"There is no evidence to come to my attention (indicating) there should be an investigation," he said.

Recent books by former members of the Nixon administration have indicated the CIA was partly responsible for some of the information leaks that eventually forced Nixon to resign.

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INDIA IRKED BY REPORT OF U.S. ATOM INCIDENT

**Demands Comment on Article Saying
Device Was Left Atop Himalayas**

NEW DELHI, April 13 (AP)—The Indian Government demanded today that the United States explain a magazine report that a secret C.I.A. mountaineering team abandoned a nuclear device on a Himalayan peak 13 years ago. Officials are especially concerned that the radioactive material could contaminate the Ganges. The United States Ambassador, Robert F. Goheen, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry and told that the report, in Outside, a publication of the American magazine Rolling Stone, had caused great concern to the Indian Government, Parliament and the Indian people, a spokesman said. The Ambassador was asked "to ascertain the truth as early as possible" and was told that "it was essential to know what hazards were involved," the spokesman added.

Foreign Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee told an interviewer that if the incident had occurred it was bound to damage relations, which have recently been improving. Legislators planned to raise the issue in Parliament tomorrow.

C.I.A. Director Has No Comment

In Washington, a State Department spokesman, Tom Reston, said the department was checking into the report, but the Director of Central Intelligence, Adm. Stansfield Turner, refused to comment. The Foreign Ministry spokesman here said Mr. Goheen had promised to provide information as soon as possible.

The account said a C.I.A. group tried in 1965 to plant a nuclear-powered device atop 25,645-foot Nanda Devi, one of India's highest mountains, to monitor atomic tests in neighboring China. Bad weather halted the climbers 2,000 feet short of the summit, according to the account, and the nuclear powerpack was left in some rocks, only to become buried in an avalanche by the time the climbers returned the following year.

The magazine said the device contained plutonium 238, which remains dangerously radioactive for up to 500 years. Once the outer covering corrodes, it said, the material could contaminate the Ganges watershed with cancer-causing poisons. The Ganges, sacred in the Hindu religion, is the principal waterway of northeastern India.

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Top spy dodges Cobo queries

By ERIC SHARP
Free Press Staff Writer

Looking more like a friendly college professor than America's head spy, Adm. Stansfield Turner, director of the CIA, smilingly sidestepped all the juicy stuff Thursday.

Did the CIA really lose a nuclear spying device up in the Himalaya Mountains 13 years ago and avoid telling the Indian government about it?

No comment, Turner replied.

Did the CIA have any involvement with Russia's top United Nations employee, Arkady Schevchenko, who left his job last week over differences with his government and is in seclusion in New York?

"I am not confirming or denying what you say," Turner answered.

What does the CIA think of President Carter's decision against deploying the neutron bomb in the near future?

That's another area we can't go into, Turner said.

TURNER WAS IN DETROIT to address a meeting of the Economic Club at Cobo Hall. At a pre-luncheon press conference, a question-and-answer session with a group of college students and his after-lunch address, he ran into the major problem for all intelligence officials: You can't talk about a lot of your work until it has evolved from current events to history.

Outside magazine recently published a report that CIA expedition to India lost the nuclear-powered device, intended to monitor atom tests in China. Turner said comment might compromise the identities of people involved or jeopardize covert agreements between nations.

He said the Schevchenko case "is one of the most delicate

diplomatic situations" the State Department faces and "I am not about to muddy the waters."

TURNER STRESSED repeatedly that he believed the United States had the world's best intelligence network and is far ahead of the Soviets in the technical intelligence field, ranging from computers to spy satellites.

He noted that the CIA has come through three years of scathing criticism and outside examination and he feels the agency has been strengthened by that experience.

"I think that sometimes in the past we in the intelligence community got a little remote from the attitudes and standards of the country," Turner said.

He said the CIA is now subject to "surrogate" inspection by the president, Congress and an intelligence watchdog board, who insure for the public that the agency does not exceed the bounds of law.

Turner said that covert political meddling in the internal affairs of other nations was now under the strict control of the president and that assassination as a tool of foreign policy had been outlawed absolutely.

JOSEPH L. HUDSON JR., presiding officer at the Economic Club luncheon, expressed the confusion many Americans feel about their country's foreign policy by saying it is "difficult to understand the introduction of Soviet troops in Ethiopia and Angola and at the same time be told that detente is upon us and the SALT talks are moving along well."

"So much of what we do, so much of what we learn must be kept secret in the national interest," Turner said. He added that the public "should not be too quick to make heroes of" former CIA agents who have written accounts of their activities



UPI Photo

CIA Director Stansfield Turner in Detroit Thursday: "I think that sometimes in the past we in the intelligence community got a little

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Candor has its limits |

CIA Director Turner is cagey

By STEPHEN CAIN
News Staff Writer

Adm. Stansfield Turner, director of the CIA, was in Detroit yesterday to drum up support for the agency and its new gospel of openness.

But he ended up illustrating the limits of candor by refusing to comment on the nuclear-powered monitoring device his predecessors allegedly left on an Indian mountaintop.

"Often, we can't defend ourselves

against false accusations," Turner replied yesterday when asked about a magazine report that CIA agents lost a device containing highly radioactive plutonium 238 in the Himalayan Mountains 13 years ago.

"If I comment, I am vulnerable when



NEWS PHOTO—HAROLD ROBINSON

CIA BRIEFING FOR DETROIT-AREA TEENS — Three high school students, guests of the Economic Club for Adm. Stansfield Turner's appearance yesterday, chat with the CIA director. The students (from left) are Kathy Monarch, of Lincoln High School; Robert Rockwell, of Mott Senior High School, and Kathy's sister, Andrea. The Economic Club regularly invites high school students to its speaking luncheons.

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asked to comment on the next report to come up . . . you can't say 'no' when you want to," Turner said.

IT WAS as close as the admiral could come to making a denial without being so specific that he could be tagged with lying, should the report prove to be true.

Turner, who addressed the Economic Club of Detroit in Cobo Hall yesterday, spoke of what he sees as "the inherent contradiction in an open and free society still maintaining (intelligence) secrets."

He said the solutions to this contradiction include:

- "Extensive oversight of our operation, checks and counterchecks to protect both the rights of individuals and the values of American society.

- Publishing on a nonsecret basis any useful information except intelligence which has value because no one else knows it or information which would disclose sources the CIA uses.

Turner noted that the CIA has published more than 100 major intelligence studies in the last year covering such critical topics as world oil-supply and demand estimates, future problems in the Soviet economy and the expected growth of international terrorism.

IN REVERSING the agency's past policy of "maximum secrecy and minimum disclosure," the admiral said he hopes to accomplish several goals at the same time:

- "America has a right to see some of the return on its intelligence investment and we hope our studies of international economic trends will benefit American business.

- "With fewer secrets, we can then better protect the ones which are really important."

- Greater openness will earn the agency more public support.

Turner, in a wide-ranging discussion at the luncheon meeting and in earlier sessions with reporters and university and high school students, talked about the agency slowly recovering from three years of intense public criticism.

"We're not going to merit any criticism in the future," he said, "because we are going to do things as we should."

"With the new laws and rules regulating the agency, we can be just as effective in the future as we were in the past," he said, noting that it would "take some time" for all his agents to adjust to the new ways of doing business.

THE ADMIRAL specifically promised "to stand up and be counted and turn in my resignation" should he ever be asked to do something illegal by the President.

Turner spoke in some detail on the published CIA study of the Soviet economy which predicts that the historic high rate of growth will decline sharply in the early 1980's.

Past growth, he said, was fueled by "increasing infusions of labor and capital into the Russian economy."

But the birthrate fell in the 1960's, which will reduce the rate of growth of the labor force in the next decade. And Soviet "mismanagement" of its oil resources will cut into the amount of capital available by selling oil to the satellite nations and others.

"In the next three or four years, Soviet oil production will peak out and begin to decline," Turner said.

"A combination of these factors — labor, capital and energy — means the Soviet leadership will face very difficult problems in the next few years . . . and it's likely to happen just about the time there is a major change in leadership (due to advancing age)."

TURNER SAID the Soviets may be forced to reduce military spending, sell less oil to Eastern Europe or "come up with some other solution contrary to their basic philosophy."

At one price of speaking out publicly, Turner said he "frequently finds Soviet consuls general at my talks."

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Give Taxpayers 'Better Return'**Turner Wants CIA to Share Intelligence With Public**

United Press International

In a clear departure from the tight-lipped approach of his predecessors, CIA Director Stansfield Turner has expressed a desire to share intelligence information with the public. He also promised that the CIA will be talking more.

"We want to share what information we collect when it can be unclassified," Turner told groups in Columbus, Ohio, and Detroit yesterday.

"For example, there is economic and political information that we can collect that would be of value to American businessmen," he told the Economic Club of Detroit.

He said the CIA is ready to expand its intelligence activities to non-military areas that could give taxpayers "a better return on their investment."

IN COLUMBUS last night, Turner said the tradition of keeping CIA work secret "is no longer the policy because the public wants to know. We will be speaking more, answering the media more completely, and publishing more."

Turner said the Soviet Union, while concentrating heavily on maintaining an extensive spy network, has fallen seriously behind the United States in the technical aspects of intelligence.

He said satellites and other devices have enhanced the CIA's ability to gather information on a global scale,

but have not reduced the need for personnel.

"We now have an increased demand for the human element," Turner said. "We use the technology to collect information, but we need the traditional human agent to know what someone's plans and intentions are."

"WE HOPE THE academic community can gain from intelligence," Turner said in an address at Ohio State University. "We need the relations with the academic community because the lifeblood of intelligence is the annual infusion of a few good high quality persons from the campus," he said. "It's a demanding and exciting profession."

He said he is confident that out of the new trends, "we are building a strong intelligence community, the best in the world."

Turner has testified before congressional committees that the CIA now is accumulating so much information through modern technical means it should be shared with the nation's industrialists, academics, economists and businessmen.

He said that through satellites there are great amounts of information about potential oil and energy reserves, crop perspectives and industrial expansion, and that the CIA, as a public-funded agency, should share such information on a wider scale.

CIA OPERATIONS CENTER
SUMMARY OF MORNING NEWS HIGHLIGHTS
14 April 1978

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1. EGYPT: Some members of the Egyptian Parliament's foreign relations committee proposed Thursday that Egypt end the stalled peace negotiations with Israel and strengthen its army instead. In another development reporters travelling with Secretary Vance were told that Vance will invite Israeli Foreign Minister Dayan to Washington in late April for talks on the Middle East. (AP)
2. AFRICA: Secretary of State Vance reportedly has received assurances that the leaders of the Patriotic Front are now ready to accept the Anglo-American proposal for convening a conference of all parties to the Rhodesian conflict in an effort to avoid an all-out war. (NYT)

Western diplomats in Moscow believe the Soviet Union and Cuba with their African allies in Ethiopia and Angola are increasing their support for the Rhodesian guerrillas. These diplomats feel that the Soviets and Cubans might move toward major military involvement in Rhodesia if the US and Britain fail to head off full-scale fighting there. (NYT)

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The Post editorializes that the Soviet charges that he was coerced by American intelligence agencies represents hurt pride and propaganda. Shevchenko is recognized as a windfall walk-in, who probably will not exacerbate US-Soviet relations. He should be welcomed. (Post)

4. CIA: Admiral Turner, speaking to the Economic Club of Detroit, said that the CIA constantly collects economic and political information that could be of value to businessmen and other non-governmental groups when it can be unclassified.

Turner also claimed that the Soviet Union has fallen seriously behind the US in the technical aspects of intelligence. While technology has improved the CIA's ability to collect information world-wide, Turner declared that the CIA continues to have an increased demand for human intelligence. Finally Turner said that he welcomed oversight of the CIA and argued that the recent crack-downs on agent activities and tightened supervision have enhanced rather than hampered the CIA's ability to gather intelligence. (UPI)

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5. SALT: In a column to be released today Cord Meyer discusses the Congressional opposition to a new SALT agreement and problems of verification. He speculates

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